

***Archaeodesmana* Topachevski & Pashkov, the correct name
for *Dibolia* Rümke, a genus of fossil water moles
(Mammalia: Talpidae)**

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An array of aquatic desman-like moles, usually grouped into the subfamily Desmaninae of the Talpidae, lived in Europe and Asia Minor from the Late Miocene to the Pleistocene. Of these, only two genera and species, *Galemys pyrenaicus* (Geoffroy, 1811) and *Desmana moschata* (Linnaeus, 1758), survived into present times and still occur in relict populations in the Iberian Peninsula and in southern Russia and Ukraine, respectively. In her classical review of the Desmaninae Rümke (1985) erected a new genus *Dibolia* to include nine extinct species of small water moles which shared bi-lobed lower incisors, a probable synapomorphy previously recognized and discussed by Storch (1978) and Engesser (1980).

Dibolia may have played a crucial role in the phylogeny of the Desmaninae. In the view of Rümke (1985) the genus constitutes the sister taxon of extant *Galemys* plus *Desmana*, in contrast to Hutchison (1974) who considered *Mygalina* as closest relative. Fossils of *Dibolia* have been found in Spain, France, Germany, Austria, Hungaria, Czech Republic, Greece, and Turkey (Rümke 1985), and recently Harrison & Kowalska (1992) recorded its presence in the Early Pliocene deposit (Early Ruscinian, MN 14 lower part) of Podlesice in Poland.

Unfortunately *Dibolia* Rümke is not available. I recently recognized the homonymy of the mole genus and *Dibolia* Latreille, a widely distributed genus of chrysomelid beetles (Seeno & Wilcox 1982) which antedates *Dibolia* Rümke by 156 years. Independently, Rzebik-Kowalska & Pawlowski (1994) also recognized this homonymy. While this note was in press, they proposed a new substitute name for *Dibolia*. However, in an addendum Rümke (1985: 239) briefly reviewed a paper by Topachevski & Pashkov (1983) on the supraspecific systematics of water-moles of the genus *Desmana* in which they proposed a number of new subgenera, some of them on the basis of undescribed type species and thus being nomina nuda. Because her manuscript was already completed, Rümke (1985) did not apply the taxonomic changes proposed by Topachevski & Pashkov (1983). One of their valid new names

was based on *Desmana pontica* Schreuder, 1940, a species which Rümke (1985) alternatively included into her new genus *Dibolia*. A new replacement name is therefore not required and *Dibolia* Rümke may be further known as

Archaeodesmana Topachevski & Pashkov, 1983 stat. nov.

Desmana (*Archaeodesmana*) Topachevski & Pashkov, 1983: 43 (Type species *Desmana pontica* Schreuder, 1940).

Dibolia Rümke, 1985: 85 (Mammalia, Talpidae; type species *Dibolia dekkersi* Rümke, 1985), non *Dibolia* Latreille, 1829: 155 (Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae).

Ruemkelia Rzebik-Kowalska & Pawlowski, 1994: 75 (replacement name for *Dibolia* Rümke); new synonym.

A diagnosis of *Archaeodesmana* was given by Topachevski & Pashkov (1983), and detailed descriptions and figures of further species were published by Rümke (1985) under genus *Dibolia*; the gender of *Archaeodesmana* is feminine.

Nine species have been named so far, which form a sequence from the Late Miocene to the Middle-Late Pliocene (Early Villanyian, MN 16): *Archaeodesmana vinea* (Storch, 1978), *A. turolensis* (Rümke, 1985) (nom. emend.), *A. adroveri* (Rümke, 1985), *A. luteyni* (Rümke, 1985), *A. major* (Rümke, 1985), *A. pontica* (Schreuder, 1940), *A. dekkersi* (Rümke, 1985), *A. brailloni* (Rümke, 1985), and *A. bifida* (Engesser, 1980).

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